Offer of Foreign Companies to supply one lakh lines to DOT on Lease Basis

3649. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the private companies of India and foreign companies have made an offer to supply 1.00 lakh lines to the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) on lease basis;

(b) if so, whether the Ericsson has submitted a comprehensive financial package including deferred payments and supplier credit;

(c) if so, whether some of the Swedish companies have also given an offer to come into the Telecom related fields; and

(d) if so, how many foreign proposals have been cleared by Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Some Indian companies have offered to supply 1 lakh lines to the Department of Telecommunications on lease basis. No foreign company had made such an offer.

(b) M/s. Ericsson Telecom, India Pvt. Ltd. have made an offer of supplying Switching Equipment on lease finance basis. No comprehensive financial offer including deferred payments and suppliers credit has been received till date.

(c) Only M/s. Ericsson, Sweden have submitted a proposal for a joint venture in India for telecom.

(d) Proposal of M/s. Ericsson has been cleared by the Government.

Transformation of Telecom Service into Education and Entertainment

3650. DR. NARREDDY THULSI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to transform our telecoms into information, education, entertainment, intelligence and knowledge delivery systems as in the developed countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) The telecommunication network is being used as carrier for information technology. A number of such services are working in the country viz.:

- Electronic Mail.
- Videotex
- Voice Mail
- Paging
- Messaging Services
- Video Conferencing
- Reminder services
- Transmission of audio and video programmes of AIR & Doordarshan.
- Computer networking for Library Services, Business Information, Scientific Data transfer, etc.

Displaying of Photographs/Portraits of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in Office Premises

3651. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all Heads of Circles, Districts and Administrative Offices of Department of Telecom, have taken steps to display photographs/portraits of Baba Saheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in office premises/recreation clubs etc. at their end, in persuance of DOT letter No. 3-9/92-SCT dated the 26th March, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the number of Telecom Circles which have decided favourably and reasons with the rest of the circles for not taking favourable decision in this regard:

(c) whether Department of Posts have also issued any order to implement the instructions by all circles as intimated in